Variety the Keynote of the Fashions.

BECOMING GOWNS FOR ALL.

Just Now the Louis Modes Have Precedence.

An Easy Matter for Women to Array Themselves Becomingly in View of the Great Variety of Smart Styles-The Louis Styles Especially Cheering for Ball Gowns-Directoire Costumes With Smart Coats, Pointed Lapels and Huge Sleeves-Stunning Frocks Representing Many Periods-Composite Styles.

The infinite variety displayed in feminine costumes at present is indeed bewildering in costume is the clinging unadorned skirt the extreme. The modes of waning summer | worn with a bolero of simple shaping and bined with the incoming fall styles are | sleeves of moderate size.

blouse waist, with its tight fitting yokes partly outlining the bust and extending to middle-arm depth, accompanies a full skirt trimmed with flounces and tucks.



And in absolute contrast with this graceful

to reveal the white satin vest beneath. adorned with Watteau bows of pink, velvet and rhinestone buckles. A huge bow of the pink velvet with a jewelled cabuchen in the centre, decorates the top of the bodice, which is completed by the puff sleeves

and the inevitable fringe of lace.

The overdress of the flowered silk is trimmed with scalloped flounces of chiffon, outlined with tiny ruchettes, finishing in bowknots at the sides, the latter forming a sort of petticoat of white satin, trimmed with lace flounces and pink velvet bows.

Another model exemplifies the same style. The close-fitting bodice of pale gray silk, with its deep point at the waist, iscu low at the neck and outlined by a garland of delicate pink roses, extending low over the shirred sleeves. A tiny ruchette of chiffon underlines the garland and finished in a scroll design on each side of a jabot of lace falling over the front of the bodice. The overskirt, of the same pale gray silk

as the bodice, is worn over a petticoat of chiffon and lace flounces. The listinguishing feature of the overdre s is the wide band of shirred lace which encircles its lower edge.

A very quaint creation illustrated in one

of the pictures, and combining two periods, the Louis and the 1830, is of pale yellow silk. The Louis bodice is a sort of sheath. descending in a deep point at the waist and passing under the arms. Mousseline de soie is draped in a graceful fold across the upper part of the bodice and over the shoulders. The sleeves of mousseline are flounces bound with bowed ribbons to the arms. The full long skirt, shirred at the waist, is decidedly on 1830 lines.

The hat worn with this gown is of cream tinted straw, with wide brim and mod-erately high crown, trimmed with roses. A white gauze veil descending from the back of the hat is wound around the neck.



A very effective ball gown of the Louis XV. period is of pompadour silk, with stripes of pale blue alternating with flowered bands of white edged with pale yellow. The shaping resembles that of the costumes

in a rounded point at the lower edge. The full elbow sleeves are completed by a band of insertion headed with lace and edged with a double flounce. The full overskirt outlined on each side and all around the lower edge by green satin ribbon reveals a petticoat of white satin shirred at the top and trimmed below with graduated flounces

of shirred lace.

The effect of this costume is charming. The hat accompanying it is in pale green straw of the shepherdess shape, pinned with soft pale green ribbon gracefully draped around the crown and arranged in a large bow on the left side, with long ends falling over the brim. A huge cog de roche, tinted rose, decorates the hat in front.

And now enter the Directoire costumes with their smart coats, pointed lapels and huge cuffs. In one of the pictures some of these characteristic features appear in a smart walking gown of dark blue cloth. A bolero of peculiar shape with lapels and a turned down collar of blue velvet closes with a huge button over a tight fitting vest of the material. Small cloth buttons are used in the closing. The very full leg of mutton sleeves extend to a little above the wrist and are completed with deep cuffs of blue velvet adorned with fancy buttons and completed by frills of chiffon. The ong, full skirt is gathered at the waist and falls in graceful folds. A large blue velvet hat with high crown trimmed with white feathers accompanies the smart creation.

A stunning coat of novel shape which



belongs to the Louis period and still savors of the Directoire is of white cloth combined with deep mauve. It is tight fitting at the waist and flares over the hips. Lapels of mauve cloth, outlined with white, frame a chemisette, draped collar and jabot of lace. The sides of the coat at the lower edge are turned in revers faced with mauve cloth and decorated with cloth buttons of the same shade. The sleeves are characteristic. Gathered at the top and at the wrist, the fulness is held down in folds at the middle of the sleeve by a sort of motif of corded white cloth, while the deep pointed mauve cuffs edged with lace lend a wonderful air of smartness to the entire garment. The latter is worn with a skirt of white figured silk trimmed with broad bands of mauve bouillonée ribbon matching the cloth of the coat. This costume is particularly stunning with the large mauve velvet hat, lifted very high on one side and trimmed with white and mauve feathers held with a jewelled buckle in front.

No less fascinating is this Directoire bolero of vague shar striped with black. The revers are of flowered satin ribbon and frame a full hemisette of chiffon and lace which pouches over a deep girdle of black taffeta adorned with buttons. The puffed sleeves with



their deep cuffs surmount undersloeves of hirred chiffon trimmed with the flowered ilbon. This fanciful creation is worn with a skirt of pale yellow flowered organdie trimmed with flounces of the same material. The hat is of pale yellow straw with broad brim and high crown encircled with gauze of the same tint and trimmed with pale yellow roses and two tall black ostrich plumes drooping over the brim and

Advent of Baby in Japan.

From Good Housekeeping.

A hundred gifts in various shapes are effered to the baby before its appearance; toys, big ones, of course; pieces of cotton, silk or crepe, invariably with a happy omen in their design, are a joy to the mother housemaids will be busy with the baby's dress under the supervision of the grand-mother. It will be no slight affair if the baby is a boy, yes, especially if it be the first

Parties coming with their congratulations

Parties coming with their congratulations will begin to stream into the house the very next morning after the announcement. They will bring dried fish or a box of eggs to express their good wishes, which will be returned in some form of present when the baby is two weeks old.

On the seventh day after the birth comes the christening, and rice cooked with red beans—doesn't red mean happiness?—will be sent among the friends. Maisu (pine, is a favorite name, since it signifies bravery, keeping green even under winter's frost. Isn't Mume (plume) better, since it is the harbinger of spring breathing out the most divine odor in the world? Mi amairi (goingto-temple; will take place on the thirtieth day. The boy will be dressed in a kimono; it must be silk, with the family's coat of arms on it. He will be put under the immediate protection of the deity. His fortune will be secured.



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THE "MODEST BATHING SUIT"

A DEFENCE OF THE GARB OF THE WOMAN WHO SWIMS.

The Much Criticised Low Neck, Sleeveless Walst and Short Skirt Seen on the Beaches Declared Essential Features of a Practical Costume for Swimming.

In view of the outbreak of criticism at various watering places this summer concerning the bathing costume usually worn by women and of the fact that never before have there been so many women who swim the question of what constitutes a modest and at the same time practical bathing costume for women becomes a pertinent one. A Philadelphia matron, scandalized by the abbreviated costumes seen on the sands at Ocean Grove and Asbury Park, recently arose in meetin' and protested forcibly, averring that it was "not only immoral, but indecent for men in sleeveless knee length costumes to mingle on the sands and in the water with women in sleeveless gowns, which, moreover, were low necked and abbreviated at the knee."

As it is hardly practicable to go in for swim in a driving costume or a tennis gown, the woman who swims is puzzled to know just what is, or should be, considered a practical as well as a perfectly modest bathing costume. To solve this vexed question, pretty little Miss Norma Hamilton, the girl life saver and the champion woman swimmer of the season, was

"What do I think constitutes a modes and practical bathing costume for women?" echoed this nineteen-year-old winner of all kinds of gold medals. "Why, that's argely a matter of personal taste.

"Of course, I know that there are some ostumes on the beach and in the water hat should not be there, but the women who wear them are never swimmers. They are beach bathers and sand paraders.

"Personally, all that sort of thing is very obnoxious to me. It is as absurd to see light colored silk bathing costumes elaborately gotten up, with fancy hose, giddy little bathing sandals and coquettish bath-ing caps that would be ruined if they got

ing caps that would be ruined if they got wet, as to see high heeled French kid boots and a train on the golf links.

"Of course, if one goes out on a beach for parade, that sort of costume may be all right, but for the woman who goes to the ocean for the pure love of swimming it is absolutely useless. And let me tell you right here that the beach bathers and the sand paraders are growing fewer and fewer every year, while the girls and women who can dive and swim and float are growing more numerous.

"Just as soon as a woman learns the joy of handling herself freely and fearlessly in the water she becomes a swimming enthusiast, and it is to that class of women I refer when I speak of the kind of bathing costume that seems to me to be practical as well as modest.

"When I swim I want a costume that is the minimum of weight and of the utmost simplicity. The closer to the figure the lines of the bathing suit conform the less resistance there is in the water. I doubt if a fish could swim well with a lot of flapping folds of cloth about him.

"I wear a simple pair of jersey tights, light weight stockings and no shoes. My

ping folds of cloth about him.

"I wear a simple pair of jersey tights, light weight stockings and no shoes. My bathing suit is made of the lightest weight brillianthe I could get, both on account of its lightness and because it does not cling to the figure.

"I have no sleeves in my suit, because in pulling the catamaran as well as in swimming the muscles of the arms and shoulders are in constant vigorous play and greatly distended, and I found that sleeves bound my arms and hampered my mo-

ming the muscles of the arms and shoulders are in constant vigorous play and greatly distended, and I found that sleeves bound my arms and hampered my motions. In swimming the neck muscles are used a great deal, and to give them full, free play and to facilitate easy breathing in the water I wear the neck of my bathing dress cut out so that my neck and throat are bare and free.

"In rough water long distance swimming the foot motion is as important as that of the arms, and that the motion of my limbs shall not be impeded I wear my bathing skirt short and soant. These, with a light rubber cap to protect my hair from too much salt water, constitute my bathing costume, which perhaps," with a fisshing smille, "might not be regarded by the reformers as modest, but it is certainly practical.

"It seems to me that in the discussion of this question of reform in bathing costumes people are more nice than wise. To be sure, if I posed for hours upon the beach or paraded up and down the sands in a coetume like the one I wear I should feel that I was overstepping the bounds of modesty and good taste, but for practical use in swimming I feel that a costume containing the least quantity of material, simple, light, close fitting, loose and comfortable, is as necessary to a swimmer as is the light weight costume of a puglilit, an carsman or a runner to him.

"Fancy a crack carsman pulling a stroke in a high collar, coat and waistcoat! And yet his position and task is far easier, far less fraught with danger than that of the swimmer when overburdened with heavy clothing. Think of a woman going in to take a long swim, perhaps to save a human life, in an ankle length bathing dress with modestly high neck and long sleeves!

"What would become of her? Well, in nine cases out of ten, unless she was an exceptionally strong swimmer she would get her feet tanried up in her skirt, her breath in her collar and simply go to the bottom.

"Of course, some years ago when women only raddled out knee deep when they

get her feet tansled up in her skirt, her breath in her collar and simply go to the bottom.

"Of course, some years ago when women only paddled out knee deep when they bathed, the question of a bathing suit was an easy one. The suits were then usually made of heavy fiannel with wide bloomers very full and gathered in at the knee on an elastic band, a full pleated waist sewed upon that, with puffed sleeves and a deep collar and a heavy pleated skirt, elaborately decorated with braid, buttoned around the waist. The average bathing suit contained about five yards of fiannel and ten or fifteen yards of braid, and when we weighed from eight to ten pounds.

"That was all very well so long as one waded along in shallow water or hung to a rope, but when women began to take courage and really learned to swim they soon found that the old style fiannel bathing dress was too great a burden. The high close collar compressed the action of the throat and neck muscles, the foolish little puffed sleeves bound and tired their arms, the baggy bloomers when filled with water became like bags of stone, and the clumsy pleated waist and wide, fiapping skirt dragged them down and impeded their motions in the water.

"All the swimming masters protested, and even expert swimmers wondered how any one could swim with such impediments.

"All the swimming masters protested, and even expert swimmers wondered how any one could swim with such impediments. Women soon discovered the truth of the matter for themselves, and as soon as they began to swim the heavy, elaborate fiannel bathing suit was doomed, and light mohair and brilliantine began to take its place.

"Little by little the width of the balloon-like bloomers was cut down until a little fulness was left above the knee. The heavy linen collar disappeared and a pretty y shaped neck took its place, and waist

## MCHUGH Of Forty-Second Street

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and skirts were robbed of some of their pleatings and fulness and made scentist and lighter. At the expense of modesty I don't think so.

"The place for a bathing suits in the water, and the better adapted it is to its practical use the more perfect a costume for its purpose it becomes. A décolleté ball gown is very pretty and entirely appropriate tô a ballroom, while it would look decidedly immodest and out of place on Broadway at high noon. A gymnasium, costume, which is entirely within the bounds of modesty and good taste in the gymnasium, would look queer among the shoppers on Twenty-third street.

"After all, it comes down to the use you make of the costume, decen's it? And I believe that a thoroughly modest, as well as practical bathing costume may be summed up like this:

"A pair of tights of Jersey cloth, or slightly full trousers of brilliantine of some dark cloth, black or blue, or brown preferred. A waist made long and full in the front, with square or V shaped neck, and no sleeves. A skirt, well buttoned on around the waist, with flat pleats to make it hang gracefully, but scant and short enough to come above the knees. Light, firm, plain steckings, of the same color as the suits or black, and a small, light rubber cap.

"In this costume there is nothing showy, nothing to attract the eye or challenge the attention. It is neat, quiet, sensible, and practical, and well adapted for easy and successful swimming.

"It is wonderful how, since this sensible costume has been adopted, women are learning to swim."

BUILT ABOUT HER WEDGWOOD,

Dining Boom in Green and White Which

Pleased a Woman Explorer in Harism. "I've heard of coming suddenly upon puried treasure," said the woman who finds it hard to believe that there is anything worth while north of Central Park. but I must say that I was never more

"but I must say that I was never more pleasantly surprised than I was in a little dining room that I found in a Harism flat to-day. I had to come into town this mornaing, so I went up to call on the newly married daughter of an old school friend, and I started very early, for I had a feeling that it was away at the ends of the earth and than I must take plenty of time to get there.

"I did feel horribly embarrassed, howeves, to discover that I had arrived just at inneheon times. But Edith declared I must sit down with her and have luncheon. I had rather disapproved of her marrying as she did. It seemed to me that she might have dong better than to choose such an anvironment, kesping house in Harlem in August. Still I suppose I am prejudiced. Edith is such a dear girl, just like her mother, that I might have known she could be depended upon to choose happily—and I'm sure she does seem perfectly happy.

"But! started to tall you about her dining, room." Her 'Wedgwood dining room, she calls it, and she says she built it all up around her Wedgwood sugar bowl and cream pitcher. It is all in that soft Wedgwood green and white. The woodwork is white, that pure white of the cameo designs on the Wedgwood ware. The walls are covered with book linen in that deep sage green of the Wedgwood. There is a white of the scheme. There is a green and white of the scheme. There is a green and white of the scheme. There is a green and white of the scheme. There is a green and white of the scheme. There is a green and white of the scheme. There is a green and white of the scheme. There is a green and white of the scheme. There is a green and white of the scheme. There is a green and white of the scheme. There is a green and white of the scheme. There is a green and white of the scheme. There is a green and white of the different bits of china on that are the officerent bit

cotton rug on the floor and white musifial curtains at the windows.

"But my greatest astonishment was the dining table and chairs. They were enamelled in white, all of them. It is certainly a very odd idea for a dining room, and if any one had told me of it I could hardly have believed it could be a success. But it was in this instance.

"I couldn't help admiring them, and them Edith confided to me that she had bought just the plainest cheap dining set she could find, and that she and Jack had enamelled it themselves and upholstered the chairs in green denim to match the walls.

"The table ferms were in a Wedgwood dish and all the china was pure white, perfectly plain. You don't know what a relief it seemed after all the decorated sets. In fact, the whole room was so dainty and cool and restful, and Edith herself, in her white house gown, seemed someway like the embodiment of the daintiness of the place. It has done me good to see such a pretty picture. I shall pass along the Wedgwood idea. It is really worth copying in a country house."

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Watteau's graceful figures, the 1830 bertha and drooping shoulders of the heroines of For ball gowns especially they are charmflounced skirts and small straight coats of the Second Empire; the boleros, vying with the long jackets in popularity, the pagoda sleeves, and those

which are almost flat All these distinctive styles and periods



modes which bear a peculiar cachet of their One costume will have a long coat with tight sleeves clinging snugly to the shoulders; while another may be seen with short bolero outlining the slope of showlders and full sleeves. Here a

the quaint stiff bows which characterized i predominance over all others, not even excepting those of the Directoire period.



modes from which they were taken. Of course the lines of the present Louis gown are not so pronounced as they used to be in the time of Madame de Pompadour, but the general idea has been retained. One of this week's pictures illustrates a beautiful creation in a combination of pink flowered silk, chiffon and lace. The pink silk bodice, cut low at the neck and descending in a deep point at the waist, is surmounted by a cut out yoke of the

flowered silk extending low over the should-

ers and outlined at the lower edge by a bertha of lace, the latter parting in front

Another model of the distinctive Louis already described-pointed waist cut low XVI. type is of hydrangea crepe de chine. The bodice, draped around the bust and descending in a deep point over the skirt is surmounted by a muslin fichu, edged with a curiously shaped flounce outlined with bands of crepe de chine. Graduated Watteau hows decorate the front of the bodice down to the point. The puffed



sleeves, trimmed in the same way, are completed by a bordered bandkerchief ounce similar to that which adorned the

The trailing skirt is shirred at the waist line and encircled with three nun's tucks.



with vest of shirred chiffon, an overskirt

framing a petticoat of white shirred chiffon.

The distinctive feature of this creation is the exquisite lace forming the sleeves and outlined with shirring and rosettes of chiffon.

Another gown exemplifying the Louis modes is of a pale green crèpe de Paris. The bodice, tight fitting and closing on the side, was surrounded by a broad lace collar of fanciful outline descending low over the shoulders and framing a lace yoke and straight collar. Cabuchons of pale green satin adorned the front of the bodice out